

July 2, 2009

Meeting began at 8:10 p.m.

Present: Bill Muse, Mayor; Wendell Roundy, Dennis Bertucci, Randy Ripplinger, Gladys LeFevre, Council Members; Judi Davis, Clerk; Loch Wade, Peg Smith, Constance Lynn and Matt Cochran, Tom Jerome, Jack Pollock, Erin and Kris, Lisa Varga, Cookie Schaus.

Pledge of allegiance

Dennis made a motion we accept the minutes of the May 7 meeting as presented. Wendell seconded the motion. Voting in favor were Dennis, Wendell and Bill. Gladys and Randy weren't at that meeting.

Gladys made a motion we accept the minutes of the meetings of June 4 and June 18 as presented. Dennis seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

The Drain's compliance with Zoning and Business License ordinances was discussed. Judy couldn't be here but wrote a letter and the Mayor read our attorney's response to her letter. He needs more information than was included in her letter. We're not sure what part of their storage is business related. We'll give them another month, then send a letter asking them to come into compliance if they are indeed noncompliant. We don't have an ordinance prohibiting storage of personal property; where they may be in violation is if the items being stored are business related. With moving, they have been pressed for time but plan to move most of the items to a place further back on their property where they won't be visible. If some is business storage, Mark Austin is willing to rent them space at his yard, which would be legal. (Tim Mutcher came.) We will continue this matter next month. We will leave it in the hands of our attorney. (Linda Crawford came.)

We are at the end of our three months' trial with Red Rock Recycling. The business would be more cost effective for them if they charged us \$300/month and they would provide us with five bins. The new bins would keep things cleaner and would mean less handling for them. Our goal was to try it for three months and hope it would be self-sustaining by then. Randy talked to Jim Jensen. Jim's response to Randy was that a baler wouldn't be practical for a town our size. Recyclers still are not paying for recyclables. Jim is looking at a different buyer, but there just isn't a market right now. We don't have the volume to make it worth their coming. The cost of paving the area, as they requested, is not in our budget, so if we can't do it they would have to do something different. Randy has trouble thinking that the amount of materials they are picking up

here is worth the Town's spending \$3,600 for and suggested that it may be better for RRR to do individual residential subscriptions. We are too scattered for that to be feasible. Or maybe we should work with the County some way. Matt asked if there is some kind of grant that would help with the costs. Peg said that some county residents are interested in participating. Randy has tried unsuccessfully to contact Brian Bremner to see about some kind of County cooperation and also talked to Jim about some kind of compactor, but that would be expensive. In response to a question of how much, by weight, is being picked up here, Kris and Erin couldn't give a figure because they don't weigh it. When they get it to Cedar City, there is no way to tell how much of what they have was generated in Boulder. The weight they have is for mixed commodities. Dennis responded that we need weights.

Bill noted that we have had good response to the program and asked what length of time would they be requesting for a contract. Pickup is once a week now, but what will it be in the winter? They will still come for cardboard and glass once a week. We'd have to be sure the snow is removed.

Randy stated that a lot of people would like to continue with the program but wondered if we can really think about spending that much on a new service. Is this the time in history to do it? Not only are our revenues down, but there is no market for the product. Should the town government be doing this instead of free enterprise? We could let the town provide the space. Constance replied that one day the landfill will be full. It's a belief we have that recycling should be an opportunity to do the right thing without worrying about the cost. Lisa responded that the program is being used. The philosophy of many people is supportive. The garbage going into the dumpsters is a fraction of what it was before, and the rest is being recycled. We need to take a stand as to what is meaningful as a community. Constance put 75 fliers in the Post Office, and they were all taken. The program spreads by word of mouth. From his daily vantage point, Tim reported that a large variety of people are using it.

Tom agreed that there is not a big market and RRR is not making a lot of money. Would that change if the economy were to improve? RRR: yes. Their goal in five years is to expand it to include the county and to eventually have a county-wide program funded by the county. Bill reported that we do have some reserved money, but our revenues are down. He asked if they have explored getting any grants. They have learned of some: Rural Development grants and some other non-profit support are available. Bill asked if we want to do a year contract and look for a grant during that time. Peg asked if the local businesses are on board year-round. They are not, but RRR averaged the slow months with the heavy ones in their figuring.

Dennis replied that we don't yet have a year's experience. They pick up more from the

town than from the businesses. With the paving, it could cost as much as \$6,000 for the whole program. The paving wouldn't need to be done immediately. Peg asked if, with the businesses not participating in the winter, we could finish this season as is, then use the bins at the businesses during the winter. Lisa responded that people make a mess. Could we go three months more at \$300, then go from there? Constance replied that they're taking more than they're getting paid for and that they're putting more effort into Boulder than into Escalante. Bill is okay with the town paying, but would like to have someone pursue a grant. The bins aren't working and the area is trashy. Everyone would like it to look good.

RRR is not only a business but also a passion. Even temporary bins are an investment for them. No one really knows what will happen. Matt and Constance will take the responsibility of looking for grants. Bill asked if we would be willing to do four more months at \$300/month. Gladys doesn't want it to be a taxpayer-funded program. RRR replied that the customers are paying for it because they believe in it. Lisa monitors the dumpsters every day, and they haven't been overflowing since recycling started. We need to get the county on board. Dennis wants to get a sense of the weight of the materials. We have to go to the county with facts to convince them that they are hauling off less because of recycling. Randy made a motion we contract with RRR for four more months at \$300/month on the condition they provide different containers. Wendell seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. RRR stated that they have more ideas and would like to meet individually with the citizens to get their ideas.

Tom reported that the park will be ready for the 4th with temporary railings on some playground equipment. Miles Austin and friends have been using the cement pad for bike tricks and skateboards, and we have a liability. There are no signs. We don't want to prevent kids from having a place to play, but we need to check on our insurance and liability. Mark is willing to set up a skateboard area and a BMX dirt, non-motorized track. We would need signs. Miles has his ramp here, which is a liability for us. We can't allow these kinds of things until we cover our liability. We need a place for kids to play. Returning to the park, Tom stated that we need a garbage receptacle at the shelter area. Tim wondered if we could relocate one of the regular dumpsters near the recycling area. It was agreed that would alleviate some problems, and we will look into the possibility. The Council expressed thanks to those who built the shelter.

Election options were discussed. After getting the feeling of the citizens present, Dennis made a motion we continue with poll elections this year. Randy seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Continuing last month's discussion, our liability of others' use of the building was discussed. Tom expressed strong feelings about the community being able to get

together and do things together without always having to watch their backs and pay someone to protect them. He feels it takes away from being a community and creates a governmental business where we have to buy insurance to protect ourselves from ourselves. Bill agreed with him and assured him that we do carry liability insurance. We told the attorney that those are our feelings, but he would be remiss if he gave us any other advice than he did. Tom has taught free Tai Chi classes to seniors and other for three years. He would resent having to sign a waiver to teach a free class that helps the health of people in town. We appreciate that feeling but need to think of our liability. In the end, it was decided to let things be and not make any changes.

Gladys made a motion we table discussion on cemetery fees until next month. Dennis seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Gladys made a motion we adjourn to executive session to discuss personnel. Dennis seconded the motion. The vote was as follows:

Wendell	Aye
Gladys	Aye
Dennis	Aye
Randy	Aye
Bill	Aye

The Council adjourned to executive session at 9:30.

At 9:45, Gladys made a motion that open meeting reconvene. Dennis seconded the motion. The vote was as follows:

Wendell	Aye
Gladys	Aye
Dennis	Aye
Randy	Aye
Bill	Aye

The Mayor appointed Tom Jerome to replace Mike Nelson on the Planning Commission. Support was unanimous.

Roads were discussed. Some time ago, Sam Stout requested a road alignment in front of his home. We need to walk the road. Jack Lyman has engineered it, and Sam will provide the labor. We will meet Wednesday, July 8, at 10:00 a.m. at the site. We need to inventory possible road hazards. Bill isn't comfortable having the Council do it and proposed appointing a committee to do the survey. The Council approved his asking Jack Pollock, Sam Stout, and Ray Nelson to be the committee.

The Fire Department is working on a list of their needs. There were no other department reports.

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Last minute 4th of July issues were discussed.

Gladys made a motion the meeting adjourn. Dennis seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00.

Minutes prepared by Judith Davis, Town Clerk

Approved by Bill Muse, Mayor